

Belgium and Luxembourg

Advising Center Network

The EducationUSA Advising Center in the Commission for Educational Exchange between the United States, Belgium and Luxembourg is the primary source for complete, unbiased and accurate information about the full range of accredited higher education institutions and opportunities in the United States. By virtue of its location in the administrative capital of Europe, the Advising Center serves individuals of any nationality residing in Belgium and Luxembourg, or other countries of the European Union. The Fulbright Commission maintains a comprehensive website and newsletter that serves the student and professional academic community.

Recent Trends: Belgium: US Study ▼ -6.8% Luxembourg: US Study ▲ 9.8%

- ▶ Growing interest in US study opportunities; large increase in applications for the Foreign Language Teaching Assistants Program and the Summer Seminar in American Studies.
- ▶ Increase in the number of undergraduate students seeking English as a Second Language (ESL) programs in the US, as well as those seeking financial aid. At the graduate level, LLM and MBA programs continue to grow in popularity.
- ▶ The majority of visitors to the Commission's Advising Center are non-grant students. These students are searching not only for information about academic programs but also other logistical information regarding practical aspects of studying in the US.

Resource Links

The Commission for Educational Exchange between the US, Belgium and Luxembourg:

www.fulbright.be

Studying in Belgium: www.diplomatie.be/en/belgium/belgiumdetail.asp?TEXTID=10457

Ministry of Education: www.men.public.lu (secondary education in Luxembourg)

Ministry of Culture, Higher Education and Research: www.mcesr.public.lu (Luxembourg)

Education System Overview

	Secondary Education	Higher Education (Bachelor's Degree)
Language of instruction:	Belgium: French, Dutch Luxembourg: Luxembourgish, French, German	Belgium: French, Dutch, English Luxembourg: French, German, English
Years of study required:	Belgium: 12 years Luxembourg: 13 years	Belgium: 3 years or 180 ECTS Luxembourg: 3 years or 180 ECTS
Belgium Grading system & US equivalent:	Satisfaction/Voldoening: 60-70% or 12-13.99/20 Distinction/Onderscheiding: 70-80% or 14-15.99/20 Grande distinction/Grote onderscheiding: 80-90% or 16-17.99/20 La plus grande distinction/Grootste onderscheiding: 90-100% or 18-20/20*	
Luxembourg Grading system & US equivalent:	Highest on scale: 60 Pass/fail level: 30 Lowest on scale: 0	Highest on scale: 20 Pass/fail level: 10 Lowest on scale: 0

* If a Belgian student doesn't average "satisfaction/voldoening," he/she either repeats the year or drops out; the highest grade is rarely awarded.

Partnering with EducationUSA Belgium and Luxembourg

US international education experts are welcome to contact the educational adviser at the Fulbright Commission for general information and/or to discuss their involvement in the annual Brussels College Night.

Country Contact

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The Commission for Educational Exchange between the US, Belgium and Luxembourg

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Program Highlights 2007

Brussels College Night — 46 US Programs

The 23rd annual Brussels College Night, which is sponsored and organized by the Commission together with the International School of Brussels, the Brussels American School and St. John's International School, took place on October 1, 2007. Over 350 students and their families attended. Forty-six US-based American universities and their affiliated programs in Europe were represented by admissions officers and/or local alumni.

Focusing on Outreach

During the 2006/07 academic year, a total of 1,045 interested students, researchers, and scholars took part in the Commission's outreach activities. The Educational Adviser represented the Commission at the Luxembourg "Foire des Etudiants" on November 8 and 9, 2007, where she and representatives of the United States embassy in Luxembourg provided information on US study and scholarship opportunities to over 1,500 interested students. The Commission also took part in the MBA2U fair on October 6, 2007 and a new event called "Studyrama" at Heysel Expo on February 3, 2007.



Key EducationUSA Partners

- ▶ The United States, Belgian and Luxembourg governments
- ▶ The European Union (DG Education and Culture)
- ▶ Belgian and Luxembourg universities and other institutions of higher education
- ▶ Student organizations
- ▶ International schools in Belgium and Luxembourg
- ▶ Council of International Schools
- ▶ Belgian and Luxembourg Fulbright Alumni Associations
- ▶ Scholarship Sponsors
- ▶ The King Baudouin Foundation
- ▶ Testing companies and educational organizations

Country Statistics	2006	2007
Number of students in the US:		
Belgium	754	703
Luxembourg	51	56
Total number of center inquiries:	5,370	8,241